NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE
NEWS

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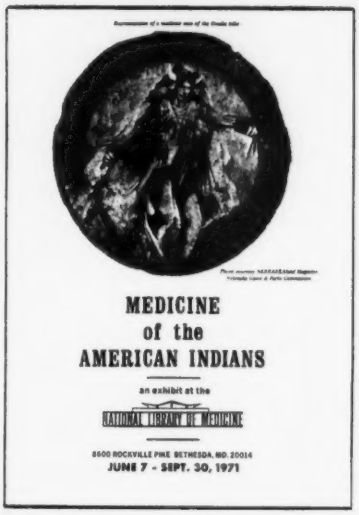

Exhibit Features American Indian Medicine

The medicine of American Indians represented a combination of magical, religious, and rational elements. Indians believed that disease could be caused by human, supernatural, or natural agency. Thus, their medicine men were both priests and physicians, equipped to treat illness in any of the three categories.

On display in the lobby of the National Library of Medicine from June 7 to September 30, is a wide range of books and artifacts illustrating "Medicine of the American Indian."

The publications, which are drawn chiefly from the Library's historical collections, include some of the earliest reports by Europeans of Indian botanicals, such as Nicolás Monardes' *Dos libros* (Seville, 1565), one of the first to treat comprehensively "those things which come from our West Indies that are useful in medicine" and his *Joyfull Newes out of the new-found world* (London, 1596), extolling the virtues of sassafras. Also on display are John Parkinson's *Theatrum botanicum* (London, 1640), an "Herball of a large Extent" with a description of medicinal plants from all over the known world, including the Indians' use of cocaine; and John Wesley's *Primitive physick; or, an easy and natural way of curing most diseases* (London, 1747) -- the famous evangelist had been deeply impressed by Indian health and medical practices while preaching in Georgia during 1735-37.

The artifacts on display include many of particular importance in treating disease of supernatural origin. Masks, often grotesque and even hideous, were worn by medicine men; healers of the Iroquois Nation wore sacred masks of the so-called "False Face Healing Society" which were intended to represent the faces of a race of woodland goblins or spirits able to expel disease by exorcising the demons afflicting patients.

Use of drums and rattles was widespread. "To cure the sick," wrote John Smith, about Indians of Virginia, "a man with a rattle and extreame howling, showting [shooting], singing and such violent gestures...will sucke blood and flegme from

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
Public Health Service
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NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE
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Medical Historians Meet

The American Association for the History of Medicine held its 44th annual meeting in Colorado Springs, Colorado, April 29-May 1, 1971.

Representatives from the National Library of Medicine included Dr. John B. Blake, Chief, NLM History of Medicine Division (HMD) and Vice President of the Association; Dr. Peter Krivatsy, Curator of Rare Books, HMD; Dr. James H. Cassedy, Historian, HMD, who presided over a session on "Medicine, Botany, and the American Frontier"; Dr. Peter D. Olch, Deputy Chief, HMD, who spoke on "The Origins and Founding of the American Board of Surgery (1913-1937): A Study in the Politics of Medicine"; and Dr. L. L. Langley and Dr. Jeanne L. Brand of the Library's Extramural Programs, who presented a paper titled "The Mind-Body Issue in Early Twentieth Century Medical Practice."

New Director Named for Lister Hill Center

Albert Feiner, formerly Manager of Magnavox Video Systems, has been named Director of NLM's Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications. The appointment became effective May 24, 1971.

Dr. Cummings said, "Mr. Feiner's technical knowledge of modern communications technology, involving satellites, cable and closed circuit television, plus his wide management experience make him ideally suited to direct the Center's programs in biomedical communications."

Prior to managing Magnavox Video Systems (Magnavox Research Laboratories, Torrance, California), Mr. Feiner was Manager of Space Communications for the same company. He was responsible for the design and development of "spread spectrum" communication equipment for the Armed Services. He was also co-inventor of satellite time division multiple access (TDMA) teletype and voice devices which were subsequently sponsored by the U. S. Air Force.

From 1963 to 1968, Mr. Feiner was employed by Hughes Aircraft Company, El Segundo, California, where he was Manager for Satellite Communications Earth Stations, and also managed Hughes' Military Communications Systems. From 1950 to 1963, he worked for Rome Air Development Center, Rome, New York, where, from 1960 to 1962, he was Chief, Advanced Development Laboratory, Directorate of Communications.

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(Exhibit, from Page 1)

Seneca wood mask, used by the "False Face Society."

the patient." This application of suction to wounds is illustrated in the exhibit with numerous suction tubes and cupping devices.

A trephined skull demonstrates that this operation was performed, chiefly by Indians of Peru, many centuries ago -- perhaps in part because of their knowledge of the anesthetic property of coca leaves and peyote.

In the exhibit are objects used by many North and South American Indians, among them the Mohave, Sioux, Peruvian, Menominee, Tlingit, and Iroquois Nation. The Library gratefully acknowledges the generous help of the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University; the Rochester (New York) Museum and Science Center; the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania; and the Smithsonian Institution.

New Office of Audiovisual Educational Development at NMAC

The National Library of Medicine and the Bureau of Health Manpower Education, two units of the National Institutes of Health, have created a new Office of Audiovisual Educational Development, designed to stimulate the development and use of new audiovisual techniques in the education of health professionals.

The new office will be located within the Library's National Medical Audiovisual Center in Atlanta, and will be regarded as a field activity of the Bureau. The agreement will allow NMAC to expand activities and conduct joint audiovisual activities with the Bureau in professional health education efforts. Up to half of the Center's operating capacity will be available for the Bureau's audiovisual program. The Center is expected to be a forum for the production of innovative education projects.

George E. Mitchell, D.M.D., M.P.H., the Bureau's Associate Regional Health Director for Manpower, Region IV (Atlanta), will be chief of the office. He will begin his new job June 1.

NMAC Deputy Director Retires

Mr. Jerome K. Barnett, Deputy Director of the National Medical Audiovisual Center, retired May 31, 1971. He came to NMAC in January 1966 following a distinguished 25-year civil service career with the U. S. Army. Prior to his appointment as Deputy Director, he served as Assistant Director for Operations for NMAC. In November 1970 he received the Director's Honor Award from Dr. Cummings in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the advancement of the Library's mission (*News*, December 1970).

NMAC Conducts Seminar-Workshop for ASA

The National Medical Audiovisual Center, during the week of May 17-21, conducted a seminar-workshop in audiovisual communications for 30 members of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA).

Participants were given instruction in preparing simple artwork, storyboards, and scripts for audiovisual presentations, as well as in photographic techniques, basic television production techniques, sound recording, and slide editing and synchronizing. They were then assigned to four groups for "hands on" experience. Three groups produced sound-slide series, and one group, a television tape.

G. U. Confers Honorary Degree On NLM Director

Dr. Martin M. Cummings accepted the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, and delivered a commencement address titled "The Green Years of Medicine," at commencement ceremonies, May 16, at the Georgetown University School of Medicine in Washington, D. C. Matthew F. McNulty, Jr., Vice President for Medical Center Affairs, conferred the degree on Dr. Cummings, citing "his brilliant service to medical scholarship, library science and the advancement of biomedical communications."

(New Director, LHCBC, from Page 2)

Born in New York City, Mr. Feiner received the Bachelor of Engineering degree from the College of the City of New York in 1950, and did graduate work in this field at Syracuse University.

Mr. Feiner's publications include "Synchronous Satellites - The Key to Peaceful Uses of Outer Space," and "The Effects of Low Noise Techniques on Tropospheric Scatter."

Mr. Feiner is the Center's second Director, succeeding Dr. Ruth M. Davis, who is now Director of the Center for Computer Sciences and Technology, National Bureau of Standards (*News*, November 1970).

Summer Hours: June 1 - September 7

Reading Room: Monday-Saturday, 8:30 a. m. - 5:00 p. m.

History of Medicine Division: Monday-Saturday, 8:30 a. m. - 4:45 p. m.

The Library is closed on Sundays.

NLM Director Helps Dedicate New Library at the University of Nebraska Medical Center

Medical libraries must be converted from passive repositories of printed knowledge to active information and communications centers, Dr. Martin M. Cummings, Director of the National Library of Medicine, said in the dedicatory address of the new $2.5 million library of the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha on May 7.

Dr. Durward B. Varner (left), Chancellor, University of Nebraska, confers honorary degree of Science on Dr. Cummings.

Dr. Cummings said that although the size and scope of a library's collection are indicative of quality, the real measure of its usefulness is ready access to this stored knowledge.

"The colossal growth of the scientific literature has overwhelmed the conventional means of identifying and retrieving knowledge," he said. "Thus, we are compelled to seek new methods of dealing with this complex problem. I believe that the science and technology which generated the information overload must now be used to manage its more efficient utilization."

The sharing of a library's resources with other libraries and the mechanization of its services, he said, depends on such factors as the use of standardized cataloging methods, the compaction of storage procedures, and improved retrieval and delivery systems. The newly developing network of the Nation's local, regional, and national medical libraries, using telephone, teletype, Telex, and even television circuits, can speed the exchange and loan of photocopies of materials and information vital to the needs of users of smaller libraries, he said.

"The University of Nebraska Medical Library has been a pioneer in giving such regional services even before it was formally designated as the Midcontinental Regional Medical Library, one of eleven such facilities that serve health professionals throughout the country," Dr. Cummings said.

Among the new library technologies, designed to improve services to biomedical scientists, he cited the use of audiovisual "information packages," the development of high quality microfilm reader-printers, the new Graphic Image Storage and Retrieval System soon to be installed in the National Library of Medicine, ultraminiaturization of photographic and computer equipment, and voice and picture communication by satellite.

(Continued on Page 6)

(New Library,from Page 5)

"These developments do not lead to the conclusion that the traditional book form will disappear," he warned. "A well indexed book is still a most efficient means of information storage and retrieval."

Dr. Cummings paid high tribute to Mrs. Bernice Hetzner, Librarian and Professor of Library Science in Nebraska's College of Medicine, for her leadership in planning the "rich and productive" growth of the new modern three-story structure atop the medical center's basic science building. Its 71,000 square feet of space, housing the collection of 140,000 volumes is nine times that of the former library which was housed in a converted hospital wing.

The honorary degree of Doctor of Science was conferred on Dr. Cummings by University of Nebraska Chancellor Durward B. Varner. The dedication program also included presentations by Dr. Robert B. Kugel, Dean of the College of Medicine, Dr. Varner, and Mrs. Hetzner.

New NLM Literature Searches

Single copies of the bibliographies listed below are available (without charge) from the Literature Search Program, Reference Section, National Library of Medicine, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20014. They should be requested by number and title. Please do not use interlibrary loan forms.

A complete list of the Literature Searches presently available may be obtained from the above address. (This list also appears monthly within the introductory pages of *Index Medicus* and the *Monthly Bibliography of Medical Reviews.)*

L.S. No.	Title
71-1	Fetal monitoring during labor. January 1966 - March 1971. (137 citations)
71-2	Genetic counseling. January 1968 - March 1971 (92 citations)
71-3	Transplantation in the therapy of hearing disorders. January 1968 - March 1971. (258 citations)
71-4	Attitudes toward death. January 1968 - March 1971. (295 citations)

(Continued on Page 7)

(Literature Searches, from Page 6)

L.S. No.	Title
71-5	Behavioral responses to animal interactions. January 1968 - March 1971. (180 citations)
71-6	Health aspects of occupational exposure to X-rays. January 1968 - March 1971. (57 English language citations)
71-7	Rabies in wildlife. January 1968 - March 1971. (99 citations)
71-8	Emergency psychiatry. January 1968 - March 1971. (176 citations) (Supplement to LS 4-68)
71-9	DNA polymerase. January 1968 - March 1971. (276 citations)
71-10	Oral manifestations of adverse drug reactions. January 1968 - March 1971. (176 citations)
71-11	Psychosocial response to factors in the urban environment. Mental health services in cities. January 1968 - March 1971. (233 citations)
71-12	Health hazards and hygiene in exposure to atomic radiation. January 1968 - March 1971. (230 citations)
71-13	Maturity onset diabetes. January 1968 - February 1971. (130 citations)
71-14	Sudden unexpected death in infants. January 1968 - March 1971. (101 citations)

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